

Seasonal Safety

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Child Passenger Safety Month

February is National Child Passenger Safety Awareness month. On the average, 90% of child seats are installed incorrectly. Having a correctly installed seat could save your child's life. Below are some basic guidelines for child safety seats.

Rear Facing Seats:

- Infants 5-20 pounds
- NEVER use in front seat with an air bag
- Should recline at a 45 degree angle
- Once installed should have less than an inch of side to side movement
- Harness straps should be in lower/middle slots at or below shoulder level
- Harness straps snug and untwisted

Forward Facing Seats:

- Children over 20 pounds **AND** over 1 year in age
- Seat forward facing
- Seat fully upright
- Once installed should have less than an inch of side to side movement
- Harness straps in top slots at or above the shoulders
- Harness straps snug and untwisted

Belt Positioning

Booster:

- Children over 40 pounds
- Protects children until they are large enough to fit correctly in an **ADULT** seat belt.
- Must be used with lap and shoulder belt

How to Get Your Seat Inspected

Loudoun County Fire-Rescue provides child safety seat inspections. **Please**

remember:

- **Make an appointment!**
Call your local station at least 3 weeks before the seat is needed. Some stations have waiting lists.
- Appointments may be postponed due to emergency calls. Our first priority is to respond to 911 calls.
- Previously owned/used seats with unknown history will not be installed.
- Any seat which has been in an accident will not be installed.

Questions?

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